

SECRET

2 February 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting of Requirements Committee

1. A meeting was held on 1 February 1956 in the Director's Conference Room. It was the first meeting of the "Informal Committee on Requirements for AQUATONE." Members present were: Cdr. Weber, Col. Stewart, Cdr. Moiteret, Col. Macia, Col. Dunn, Mr. Guenther, [redacted], Dr. Guthe, Mr. Reber. Others present included: Mr. Bissell, [redacted] Mr. Lundahl, Mr. Knoche, Major Karably, Mr. [redacted] Mr. Lloyd, [redacted]

2. Mr. Bissell opened the meeting by discussing the general approach to inter-Agency participation requirements for AQUATONE. He explained the very tight security procedures used with this Project and gave a general explanation as to types and characteristics of equipment. Major Karably spoke in some detail about camera configurations followed by [redacted] who discussed electronic equipment. [redacted] Lt. [redacted] and Mr. Lundahl presented their portions of the program much in accordance with the attached agenda.

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SECRET

5. Col. Macia asked Mr. Bissell whether he felt he had the authority to order a photo mission over an area that had previously been photographed considering the possibility remote though it may be, that the vehicle may be lost over a hostile country. To put it another way: Would Mr. Bissell be able to justify losing a plane while obtaining relatively low priority intelligence targets. Mr. Bissell felt he was sure he had such authority and would be able to justify the mission if the need arose. After all some of the best intelligence is derived from repeated coverage.

6. The security for handling the take from this Project was discussed. It was suggested by Mr. Bissell and Mr. Reber that this matter be explored more fully at the next meeting of this committee. Cols. Stewart and Macia questioned whether the relatively low priority intelligence materials which could be derived from our photography was worth the risk that would be taken by loose handling. They felt that security measures could always be relaxed, but once relaxed, it was their experience, it would be very difficult to tighten them.

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7. Mr. Lundahl said during his presentation that Eastman possesses a capacity for producing seven "units" (dupe negatives, dupe positives, or print) and that the distribution of these units has not at this time been decided, but will require some indication from the various consumers as to what they need. Mr. Bissell at this point stepped in to clarify a point: he said it was true that Eastman does possess this capability, but that he hoped that members of the committee would not leave with the impression that all seven units would be produced, for if they were, it would leave no flexibility with Eastman and also, it might present an insurmountable security problem. He added that this, of course, would again come up for discussion in a future meeting of the Requirements Committee.

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SECRET